

REMARKS

In the Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15 and 21-23 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by Schneider et al. (USP 6,808,198). In addition, claim 3 was rejected under §103(a) as being rendered unpatentable over the Schneider et al. '198 patent.

Claims 17, 19 and 20 were allowed by the Examiner and claim 11 was objected to since it was dependent on a rejected base claim.

By this Amendment, all of the remaining claims have been amended in one way or another to either place them in better form (claims 17, 19 and 20) or to further distinguish them from the prior art (claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 10-12, 15 and 21-23).

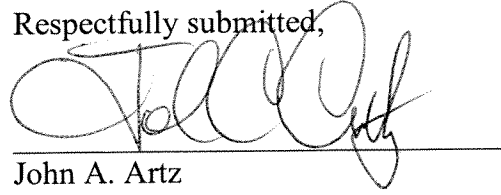
As to allowed claims 17, 19 and 20, independent claim 17 has merely been amended to place it in better form. No changes of substance have been made to the scope or meaning of that claim. Dependent claims 19 and 20 have been amended to conform them to amended claim 17. It is submitted that claims 17, 19 and 20 are still in allowable form and their allowance should be affirmed.

As to rejected independent claims 1 and 21 (the only other independent claims in the case), they have been amended to add further details of the structure of the guide member. The guide member has been amended to have a "wedge shape" which conforms to its structure in the application drawings. This addition to claims 1 and 21 clearly distinguishes their subject matter from the Schneider et al. patent.

In addition, dependent claims 22 and 23 have been amended simply to conform them to the amended language of claim 21. The remaining dependent claims, namely claims 3-4, 6-7, 10-12 and 15, remain as they were amended previously.

Thus, in view of the foregoing explanation and the changes to the claims, it is submitted that all of the claims remaining in the case, namely claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 10-12, 15, 17, and 19-23, are in proper form and patentably distinguish from the prior art. Accordingly, allowance of the claims and passage of the application to allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John A. Artz', is written over a horizontal line.

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